

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 184226 TOSEC 190138

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DRAFTED BY:S/S-O:DLMACK

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 184226 TOSEC 190138

EXDIS

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM TEHRAN DATED JULY 25, 1976 SENT

SECSTATE WASHDC IS REPEATED TO YOU: QUOTE

E C R E T TEHRAN 7495

EXDIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM THE AMBASSADOR

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUB: VISIT OF SECRETARY TO IRAN

REF: (A) TEHRAN 7246, (B) TEHRAN 7247, (C) STATE 180686, (D) TEHRAN

7463

1. MAY I PLEASE BESPEAK YOUR ASSISTANCE IN CLARIFYING A CERTAIN
CONFUSION WHICH APPEARS TO HAVE CROPPED UP IN CONNECTION WITH
YOUR UPCOMING VISIT TO IRAN. WE ARE MOST ANXIOUS TO CARRY OUT
YOUR WISHES AS BEST WE CAN, BUT WE SEEM TO BE GETTING CONFLICT-
ING INDICATIONS FROM THE DEPARTMENT AND FROM AMBASSADOR ZAHEDI.

2. WHEN I FIRST DISCUSSED YOUR VISIT WITH MINISTER OF COURT
ALAM, I MADE IT CLEAR THAT YOU WANTED TO ABIDE BY THE WISHES
OF THE IMPERIAL COURT AND THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN AS TO THE
ARRANGEMENTS. THIS WAS REFLECTED IN THE PROPOSALS CONTAINED

SECRET

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PAGE 02 STATE 184226 TOSEC 190138

REFTEL (A). SUBSEQUENTLY, WE RECEIVED REFTEL (C). THIS IN

TURN WAS OVERTAKEN BY REFTEL (D). WHEN I SAW THE SHAH SATURDAY AFTERNOON, HE NOTED THAT HE HAD HAD A TELEGRAM FROM AMBASSADOR ZAHEDI THAT MORNING STATING THAT YOU WISHED TO BE AT NOWSHAHR DURING YOUR STAY IN IRAN, OR PUT IN THE SHAH'S EXACT WORDS, "I UNDERSTAND THAT THE SECRETARY WISHES TO BE UP NORTH DURING HIS TWO DAYS HERE." WE DISCUSSED THE PROS AND CONS. IT ENDED BY THE SHAH VERY GRACIOUSLY SAYING, "IF SECRETARY KISSINGER WISHES TO BE AT NOWSHAHR, OF COURSE WE WILL BE HAPPY TO MAKE THIS POSSIBLE."

3. IN CONVEYING TO ME YOUR WISHES, PLEASE UNDERSTAND THAT I WOULD NOT BE DOING MY JOB IF I DID NOT ASK YOU TO KEEP IN MIND CERTAIN FACTORS WHICH ARE RELEVANT:
(1) NOWSHAHR, RAMSAR, AND THE TOWNS BETWEEN ARE RESORT TOWNS AND THIS IS THE HEIGHT OF THE SUMMER SEASON FOR IRANIANS.

(2) COMMUNICATIONS WERE DIFFICULT ENOUGH FROM ISFAHAN THE LAST TIME YOU WERE HERE, THEY WILL BE CONSIDERABLY MORE DIFFICULT AT THE CASPIAN. (YOUR PLANE MUST REMAIN IN TEHRAN, SO IT WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR COMMO SERVICE AS VICE-PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER'S WAS AT KISH ISLAND LAST MARCH.)

(3) THE WEATHER AT THE CASPIAN IS HUMID AND CAN BE HOT AT THIS TIME OF YEAR.

(4) AT PRESENT WE HAVE NO READING ON WHERE YOUR SECRETARIAT AT NOWSHAHR WOULD BE SET UP, BUT PERHAPS THERE IS ROOM IN THE RAMBLER-TYPE BEACH HOUSE WHERE YOU WOULD BE STAYING, A GOOD WALK FROM THE SHAH'S RELATIVELY MODEST ACCOMMODATIONS AT RAMSAR THE SHAH'S PALACE HAS ONLY ONE BEDROOM, SO YOU WOULD PROBABLY BE AT THE GRAND HOTEL NEXT DOOR. THESE TOWNS ARE ONE HOUR'S DRIVE APART.

4. REGRET HAVING TO TROUBLE YOU WITH THESE DETAILS. NONE OF THEM ARE INSURMOUNTABLE AND I AM QUITE CERTAIN THAT WHATEVER YOU DECIDE WILL BE ENTIRELY ACCEPTABLE TO THE SHAH AND THE GOI, WHO AS USUAL WANT TO BE AS ACCOMMODATING AS POSSIBLE. I AM SURE YOU KNOW THAT ON OUR PART WE WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO MAKE YOUR VISIT COMFORTABLE AND SUCCESSFUL. WARM REGARDS.

HELMS
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PAGE 03 STATE 184226 TOSEC 190138

UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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